

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-31 (Cancelled)

¹
~~32~~. (New) A communication method, comprising:

transmitting, during one of a plurality of offset periods, a channel access request that is encoded by a first scrambling code;

receiving a channel grant that identifies the first scrambling code; and

^{B1} selecting a second scrambling code for use in communicating information over the granted channel based on the particular one of the plurality of offset periods used to communicate the channel access request.

²
~~33~~. (New) The communication method of claim ¹~~32~~, wherein:

the second scrambling code is selected in accordance with the expression $k=j*m+r$, where

k identifies a particular one of a plurality of prospective scrambling codes that may be selected for the second scrambling code,

j identifies the particular one of the plurality of offset periods during which the channel access request was communicated,

m is an integer greater than 1 that identifies a permissible number of concurrently granted channels, and

r indexes the channel grant within a plurality of communicated channel grants.

B | ³
~~34~~. (New) The communication method of claim ²~~33~~ wherein the value of m is selected to accord with an acceptable amount of communication interference among the concurrently granted channels.

⁴
~~35~~. (New) The communication method of claim ¹~~32~~ further comprising:

selecting a distinct second scrambling code for each of a plurality of channels granted by a plurality of communicated channel grants, wherein

the granted channels derive a substantial degree of orthogonality from one another through the selected second scrambling codes.

5
36. (New) A communication system, comprising:

a first terminal that communicates, during one of a plurality of offset periods, a channel access request that is encoded by a first scrambling code; and

B | a second terminal that receives the channel access request and communicates to the first terminal a channel grant that identifies the first scrambling code, wherein

the second terminal selects a second scrambling code for use in communicating information over the granted channel based on the particular one of the plurality of offset periods used to communicate the channel access request.

6
37. (New) The communication system of claim 36, wherein:

the second terminal selects the second scrambling code in accordance with the expression $k=j*m+r$, where:

k identifies a particular one of a plurality of prospective scrambling codes that may be selected for the second scrambling code,

j identifies the particular one of the plurality of offset periods during which the channel access request was communicated,

m is an integer greater than 1 that identifies a permissible number of concurrently granted channels, and

r indexes the channel grant within a plurality of communicated channel grants.

38. (New) The communication system of claim ⁴~~37~~ wherein the value of m is selected to accord with an acceptable amount of communication interference among the concurrently granted channels.

39. (New) The communication system of claim ⁶~~38~~ further comprising:

a third terminal that selects a different second scrambling code than that selected by the first terminal, for communicating information on a different channel granted by the second terminal, wherein

the granted channels derive a substantial degree of orthogonality from one another through the selected second scrambling codes.